

ARTICLES TO BE ENQUIRED OF

By the Church-wardens and Sworne men, within the
Archdeaconry of WORCESTER, in the first visita-

tion of the R. Worshipfull HUGH FLOYD

Dr of Divinity, Archdeacon of Worcester.

Anno Dom. 1624.



AT OXFORD,

Printed by JOHN LICHFIELD, and JAMES SHORT,

Printers to the famous University. 1624.

1624.

A note of due Fees to be paid and exacted in this first Visitation of
M. Ar. hdeacon of Worcester, Anno Dom. 1624. the better to satisfie
all sorts, and to keepe every one from being wronged herein.

CLERGIE.

For entering the Act of Appearance of every proprie^try, Par-
son, Vicar, Curat, Sequestrator, Schoolemaster, Usher, & such like } 4^d
to the Register

For exhibiting every Proxie for excuse of any ones absence, to } 2^r
the Register

For exhibiting every Plurality, to the Register } 2^r

For any Acts Iudicially done, 4^d. For continuing any matter 4^d. }
and for Exhibiting of Letters, of Orders, Institutions, Inductions, } 4^d
Licenses, &c. for every one of them to the Register

LATIE.

For M. Archdeacon for his Articles in Print, from the Church-
wardens of euery parish Church and Chappell, which are to exhib- } 6^d
ite presentments.

For making & examining each bill of presentment for the Clerk } 6^d
allowed in the office.

For exhibiting every bill of presentment 4^d, & for every booke } 6^d
of Articles sent forth 2^d. to the Register in toto.

APPARATORS FEES.

For the Apparator from the Church-w^{rdens} of euery parish } 6^d
Church and Chappell which giueth vp any bill of presentment: for }
giuing monition and summons, and for carrying and deliuerie of }
bookes of Articles to them: for every such place } 6^d

And for the Apparator for warning the Clergie Schoolemasters } 4^d
and other such like aboue said of every of them only.

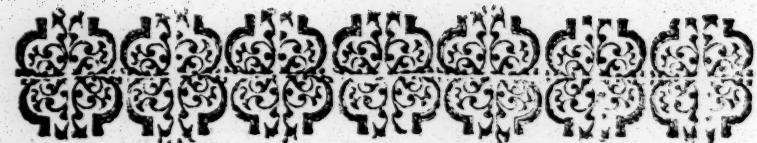
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A note of Directions.

THE old Church-wardens and Sidemen of every parish Church, and Chappell, are to ioyne together in appearance, and presentment vpon the Articles delivered them at the last Visitation, and the Minister also may ioyne in presentinent with them, if hee will: or otherwise the Minister may present alone. And the new elected Churchwardens and Sidemen are to appeare, and to take their oathes, and to exhibite their presentments afterwards when they shall bee assigned, as by the 118. and 119. Canon is required. The presentments to be made, are to bee plainly and particularly set downe to answere every part and branch of euery severall Article following, & to be subscribed & testified vnder the hands and markes of all and singular the presentors.

2 The Proprietaries, Parsons, Vicars, Curats, and Sequestrators of Ecclesiasticall Benefices, & their respetiuie Farmers and all publique Lecturers, Schoolemasters, Vishers, and vnder Schoolemasters, &c. of, or within euery parish. Church, and Chappell, are also to appeare, and to exhibite their Letters of Orders, Institutions, and Inductions, & all other their Dispensations, Licenses, and faculties whatsoeuer in this first Visitation of the moderne Archdeacon now visiting. And they are also to make reall payment of all such Procurations and Synodals, and other duties as are respetiuely due and payable by e-
very of them severally in this Visitation.



THE TENOVR OF THE OATH TO BE
minisfred to all and every of the Churchwardens
and Side men or Afflants in the said
Visitation.

Y OV, and every of you shall sweare by Almighty God,
that all favour,feare, and affection , and all other sinister
corruption whatsoeuer, set aside , vpon due considerati-
on of these Articles giuen you in charge , you will make a true,
plaine,perfect, and particular answere and presentment in wri-
ting to the same Articles , and to every branch and part there-
of, presenting all and every offenders & offences therein men-
tioned,so as may stand with the glory of God, the discharge of
your consciences , and the iurisdiction of the Ecclesiasticall
Court,wherein you shall deale sincerely,faithfully, & vpright-
ly as before God; So helpe you God in Christ Jesu.



ARTICLES.

Concerning Church and Church-yard.



Whether is your Church and Chancell in all respects wel and sufficiently repaired, and kept sweet and cleane: haue you therein the tenne Commandements, the Articles of the beleefe, and other godly sentences fairely written; the Bible of the largest volume, the booke of Common prayer, the two volumes of Homilies, the booke intituled God and the King, and all other bookes requisite, a seemely Pulpit, a convenient seat for the Minister at prayers, a large & comely Surpesse, whole and vntorne?

2 Haue you in your said Church a strong chest for Almes, with a hole in the top, and three lockes and keyes thereto? Is the mony therein put, imployed to the vse of the poore?

3 Haue you a Register of Christnings, Weddings, and Burialls, in a booke of parchment duly kept in a chest with three lockes and keyes?

4 Hath any man pulled downe or vncouered, or suffered to decay any parsonage or vicorage houses, or any Church, Chancell, Chappell, Tellerie, or Church house, in part, or in all?

5 Whether is your Parsonage, Vicorage, or Ministers house, or any part thereof conuerted, made, vsed, or imployed to, or for any common passage, entry, through-fare, or common way for people, or cattle vsually to passe through, forth of the Churchedard and into or unto any Alehouse, Tipling, or victualing house, common Inne, or wine Taverne. And by whom, and by whose sufferance and permission, and how long hath the same beene so made, enjoyed, vsed, imployed, or rather misused and misimployed as aforesaid?

6 Whether are the pales, fences, enclosures, and markes of the ancient boundes and limits of your parsonage, vicorage, or ministers house, or of the courts, entries, gardens, back-sides, or other appurtenances belonging to the same, or any part thereof remoued and altered, or taken away from their ancient places, bounds and limits thereof, and laid and vsed to and with any victualing house, common Inne, or wine Taverne. And by whom, when, and by whose sufferance, and how long time hath the same beene so done and suffered. And whether by the continuance of the vse of the premises as aforesaid, may not the same in shourt time growe out of knowledge, and by some prescription become prejudiciale to the Church, or succeeding Incumbent thereto?

Articles.

7 Are your Bells, Bell-ropes, and clocke in good repaire, & well ordered? Is your Churchyard well fenced and decently kept? Is it not profaned with fighting, brawling, chiding, gaming, dancing, playing, or with unlawfull cattle, or otherwise; and how, and by whom, and by whose default?

Ministers and Curates.

8 Doth he read or say the whole diuine seruice every Sunday and Holyday, and administer the holy Sacraments according to the book of Common prayer. Is your Minister a licensed Preacher, doth hee diligently preach sound doctrine, and for matters of government seriously teach and maintaine the Kings supremacie vnder God within his Maesties dominions, ouer all persons, and in causes aswell Ecclesiasticall as Civil, and the abolishing of all forraigne power?

9 Hath your Minister more Benefices then one? if two, or moxe, doth hee reside vpon one of them himselfe, and maintaine a licensed Preacher on the other? If he haue but one is he resident, and dwelling thereupon; is he painfull in his vocation, of sober and good conuersation, and given to hospitality?

10 Doth your Minister vse decencie of Apparell, aswell in the Church as elsewhere. And in time of diuine prayers, and administration of the Sacraments, doth hee vse to weare the Surplesse; and if hee be a Graduate, such a hood as is agreeable to his calling?

11 Is your Minister a peace-maker, and no sower of discord, or is he suspected, famed, or accused of any notoious crime; or giueth he any ill example? or doth any Minister with you forslake his calling?

12 Doth any preach in your Parish, that resulseth to conserue himselfe to the lawes, ordinances, and rites of the Church of England?

13 Hath your Minister a Curate, & how is he licensed? doth he serue two Cures, & doth he bid the Fasting dayes, & Holy-dayes, commandments and allowed?

14 If your Minister be not a Preacher allowed, doth hee procul monethly Sermons; & when there is no Sermon, doth hee read an Homily, doth hee take on him to expound any text of Scripture?

15 What Preachers haue come from any other place, & preached in your Parish: haue you their names written in a booke kept for that purpose; hath such a Preacher subscribed his name thereto, and set down the day when he preached, and by whom licensed?

16 Hath your Minister obtained his Benefice by any Symoniacall compact, either directly, or indirectly?

17 Hath any of your Parish, or of any other parish, vnreuerently vsed you

Articles.

your Minister, laid violent hands on him, or disgraced his office & function, by word or deed?

Divine Service.

18 Is diuine seruice in due time on Sundaises, Holydaies, and at other times appointed, reverently said or sung in your Church or Chappell, with the Letany on Wednesdayes and Fridayes; and all other rites and ceremonies, according to the prescript forme of common prayer in the Communion Booke?

19 Whether doth any not being licensed (or any not ordered at least for a Deacon) say Common prayer openly in your Church, or Chappell?

20 Doe any men, young or old, vse to weare their Hattes in the Church or Chappell in the time of divine Seruice, or are there any that behauie themselues disorderly in the Church, Chappell, or Churchyard, or any disturbers of divine seruice or sermons?

21 Whether doe any victualers (or others in your parish) suffer any drinking or gaming in their houses on Sundaises or Holydaies, especially in time of Diuine seruice or sermons?

22 Whether any in your parish vpon the sabbath daies, or holidales doe vse their Trade, or doe any other worke or labour, as Biewing, Baking, Washing, Barbing, or such like, or doe any Mercers, Drapers, Shomakers, Butchers, or others whatsoeuer open their Shops for sale of wares vpon those dayes, or doe hedge, ditch, digge, carry, or drawe burdens by themselues, their seruants, hoxses, or other cattle whatsoeuer on such daies?

The holy Communion.

23 Haue you a decent Communion Table on a frame, with a seemly carpet, and a cloth of Linnen, a communion cup and couer of siluer, a faire Flagon of pewter or purer mettle for the Wlne, a plate for the Bread, & a Towell to lay ouer it?

24 Whether is there any in your parish, which being full fifteene yeares of age and vpward, hath not receaued the holy communion three severall times in the yeare past at least, in his or her parish church whereof Easter to be one of the three times?

25 Doth your Minister instruct and examine his Parishioners concerning the Sacraments at conuenient times, before hee administer the Communion. And doth he admit any thereto that cannot say at least the Lords praier, the Articles of the Chylstian faith, and the ten Commandements?

26 Is your Communion ministered with Bread and Wlne, consecrated in such order as in the booke of common prayer is appointed? And

Articles.

7 Are your Bells, Bell-ropes, and clocke in good repaire, & well ordered? Is your Churchyard well fenced and decently kept? Is it not profaned with fighting, brawling, chiding, gaming, dancing, playing, or with unlawfull cattle, or otherwise; and how, and by whom, and by whose default?

Ministers and Curates.

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Articles.

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Divine Service.

28 Is divine service in due time on Sundauies, Holydaies, and at other times appointed, reverently said or sung in your Church or Chappell, with the Letany on Wednesdaies and Fridaies; and all other rites and ceremonies, according to the mescript forme of common prayer in

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21 Whether doe any victualers (or others in your parish) suffer any drinking or gaming in their houses on Sundaises or Holidaies, especially in time of Diuine service or sermons?

22 Whether any in your parish vpon the sabaoth daies, or holidaies doe vse their Trade, or doe any other worke or labour, as Biewing, Baking, Washing, Barbing, or such like, or doe any Mercers, Drapers, Shomakers, Butchers, or others whatsoeuer open their shops for sale of wares vpon those dayes, or doe hedge, ditch, digge, carry, or drawe burdens by themselues, their seruants, hoxses, or other cattle whatsoeuer on such daies?

The holy Communion.

23 Haue you a decent Communion Table on a frame, with a seemly carpet, and a cloth of Linnen, a communion cup and couer of siluer, a faire Flagon of pewter or purer mettle for the WINE, a plate for the Bread, & a Towell to lay ouer it?

24 Whether is there any in your parish, which being full thirteen years of age and upward, hath not receaued the holy communion three severall times in the yeare past at least, in his or her parish church whereof Easter to be one of the three times?

25 Doth your Minister instruct and examine his Parishioners concerning the Saeraments at conuenient times, before hee administer the Communion. And doth he admit any thereto that cannot say at least the Lords prayer, the Articles of the Chylstian faith, and the ten Comman- dements?

26 Is your Communion ministred with Bread and WINE, consecra- tered in such order as in the booke of common prayer is appointed? And

Articles.

both your Minister deliuer both kindes to every severall Communicant, with the blessing prescribed in the booke of common prayer?

27 Doth any in your parish receaue the holy Communion either sitt-
ing, standing, or otherwise then kneeling, as is prescribed in the booke of
common prayer; or doe any refuse to receaue the same kneeling; and doth
your Minister admit any to receaue the communion otherwise then kneel-
ling?

28 Doth your Minister admit any notorious offenders, or any schis-
matickes to the holy communion before due penance enioyned by the
Ordinary, be duly performed by them, or doth he admit any notoriously
knowne to be out of charity; or any that hath done any open wrong to his
Neighbour before reconciliation made to the party wronged?

29 Whether doth your Minister appoint and obserue so many Com-
muniونs in one yeare as that the parishioners may conveniently receaue
all of them there threse severall times in the yeare: And doth he use to giue
publique notice thereof in the Church, the Saboth day next going before
every such Communiونs, that the Parishioners may prepare themselues
to be partakers thereof?

Baptisme.

30 Haue you in your Church a convenient fount of stone, well kept,
and couered, standing in the ancient place; doth your Minister Baptise
therew, or in any Basin, or other thing, or with any other ceremonies then
such as are allowed in the booke of common prayer; or doth he omit neg-
lect, or not use all the ceremonies therem prescribed; and doth he use the
signe of the Crosle in Baptisme?

31 Doth your Minister refuse to Baptise any chilzen of Christian
parents, that are brought to the Church?

32 Are Parents urged to be present at the Baptising of their Chil-
zen; or be any admitted to be Godfathers, or Godmothers that haue not
receaued the holy Communion; or doe any parents refuse to haue their
chilzen signed with the signe of the crosle in their Baptisme?

33 Haue any chilzen that were borne in your parish beene carried
out of the parish to be baptised elsewhere; or haue any not beene baptised
at all, or in places, or by parties unknowne?

34 Whether hath your Minister refused, deferred, or delayed to come
vnto, and to Christen any child being in weaknesse, or in danger of death,
being therewerto required, by reason whereof such a chil hath (throught
his negligence, or by his default) died unbaptised?

Catechisme.

35 Doth your Minister or his Curate, duly Catechise according to
the

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the late Canon every Sunday, such children and servants of both sexes, as are of convenient age, or at least so many of them by course, as the time will serue?

36 Doe Parents and Houisholders bring, or send their children and servants to the Churche every Sunday duly to be catechised, according as the late Canons require, and who are negligent therein?

Matrimonie.

37 Whether is Matrimonie solemnized in your church or chappell, according to the booke of common prayer?

38 Haue you in your church a Table of Degrees of Marriage; are any married within the degrees of consanguinity or affinity therein forbidden or doe any children vnder the age of twenty one yeares, contract themselves, or marry without consent of their Parents or Gardians?

39 Haue any been married without Vaines chyfe asked in the church three seuerall sundays or Holydaies (vnlesse by License of the Ordinary, granted vnder seale) or at any time of the day, then betwixt the houres of eight and twelue in the soorenoune, or at any times prohibited, that is to say, from aduent Sunday to the Octaues of the Epiphany, from Septuaginta Sunday to the Octaues of Easter: from Rogation Sunday, to Trinity Sunday?

40 Haue any that dwelle in your parish, been married in any other parish, or any of another parish beene married in your parish; or haue any bin married priuately out of the church or face of the congregation, when, where by whom, and who were present at such marriages?

41 Haue any women not well knowne to be married, beene deliuereſ of any child in your parish and in whose house: or hath any woman in your parish beene carnally knowne, or begotten with child before marriage, & by whom?

42 Haue any forsaken their wiues or Husbands, and married others; haue any married againe after they haue beene divorced: or doe any which haue beene divorced keepe company still together?

43 Doe any married couples liue asunder and not together, and doe either of them keepe in their house, or secretly resort to any other, to the rasing of suspition of same of incorrigeney?

44 Hath any in your parish for mony or reward, Marriid any Woman that committed Fornication or Adultery with an other man? Or hath any vnmarrid Woman begotten with child gone out of your parish before she hath done penance enjoyned her by the Ordinary, where was she, or is she receaued or harbored, at whose charge, and who conveyed her away?

Articles.

Visitation of the Sick.

45 Doth your Minister or Curate visit the sick, doth hee admonish them to repentance, comfort the Penitent, and exhort them to charitable & almes deeds?

Buriall of the Dead.

46 Are your Dead buried according to the forme of Buriall set down in the booke of Common prayer; or haue any beene buried secretly or in the night, who and by whom and who were present thereat?

47 Doe the Executors or Administratores, or other friends of them that are buried in church or chancell, reparie againe the pauements, & glie any thing to the Church?

Churching of Women.

48 Doe any Women refuseth to give God thankes openly in the church or (as we carme it) to be churched at convenient times after child-birth, or doth any Minister refuse to churche them, or churche them any otherwise then is prescribed in the booke of common prayer?

49 Hath any Woman unlawfully begotten with child, beene admitted to publicke thanksgiving in the church before she hath performed such penance as was eniogued her by the Ordinary, or at least beene churched in a white sheet, and confessed her fault penitently before sufficient witness, and undertaken to stand to the censure of her Ordinary for her said offence?

Parish Clearkes.

50 Haue you a Parish Clarke chosen by the Minister, is hee of honest conversation, hath he competent skill in reading, writing, and singing: And doth any withhold or detaine his Wages or duties from him?

Schoolemasters.

51 Haue you any Schoole house, and how is it repaired. And haue you any Schoolemaster in your Parish that teacheth publicquely, or privately, is he lawfully licensed: Doth he come duely to the Church and receive the holy Communion? Doth he instruct his Schollers in the Catechisme allowed, & in the Booke intituled God and the King: causeth bee them to reparie to diuine Prayers in the Church, and to heare and note Sermons: Teacheth he any other Grammer then that which is allowed?

52 Is any Schoole-master knowne or suspected publicquely or privatly to read to his Schollers, or suffer them to read any Booke that may confirme them in Poperie, superstition, or disobedience to the Kings Majestie, or to his lawes Ecclesiasticall or Civil, & how many either men or women, doe teach children in your Parish, and what be their names?

Schisme.

Articles.

Schismatiques and Recusantes of all sorts.

53 Doe you know any that teach or maintaine any doctrine contrary to the Articles agreed vpon in the convocation Anno Dom. 1562.

54 Durb any preach, minister the Communion, baptize children, or church Women in private houses, or other where then in the Church, except it be in cases of necessitie?

55 Know you any that absent themselves from the Church negligently or wilfully, how long haue they so done: And of them that are absent without a sufficient and lawfull cause, is the forfeiture of xii d. taken every sunday, & converted to the use of the poore, according to the Statute. Eliz. 1.

56 In your Parish where there is a Preacher, doe any use to absent themselves from his sermon, and resort to any other?

57 Know you any that forbeare to participate with the church of England in prayer or sacraments, either denye the Church to be Apostolical, or condemning the ceremonys therof as superstitious?

58 Haue you in your parish any Popish Recusants, any halfe Papists that come to the Church, & receive not the Communion, any Church Papists that come & receive themselves, but either perswade others, or maintaine their wiues, children, family, or friends not to come?

59 Doth any seminary Priest or Jesuite, resort to any place within this Dioces, or suspect you any such: Or doe you know any that resort to any Popish Priest or Jesuite?

60 Know you any that by writing, talke or argument, impagine the Kings supremacie, or any that haue kept in their custodie, that sell disperse, carry or deliuer vnto others any unlawfull Bookes against the Religion & Government established, or in defiance of any foraigne power, or domestical consistorie?

Excommunicated persons.

61 Are all excommunicated persons kept out of the Church from diuine Prayers, & receiuing of the holy communion vntill they bee lawfully absolued? And are there any in your Parish which haue stood excommunicated soþy dayes & vpwards; are such persons as stand excommunicated, once in every six moneths denouced in your Church in time of diuine seruice vpon some Sunday?

62 Hath any Excommunicated person not absolued (at least in his extremtie) not giuing any testimony of his repentance before his departure, beeene buried in Christian burials, who buried him, her, or them; where, and when, and who were present at such burials?

63 Do any retaine or keepe in their house or seruice any person denouced excommunicate, or doe any way enourage them therin, or conuerte

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With them in buying, selling, eating, drinking, or otherwise?

Wills, Testaments, and Administrations.

64 Doe any in your parish administer the Goods of the dead, or any way intermeddle therewith, without lawfull authority committed unto them under the Ordinaries seale?

65 Know you any in your parish that supprese the last Will of the Dead, or any that forge or alter any Wills, or any Executors that fulfil not the Testators Will; or any that detain Legacies given to any charitable uses?

Seuerall Articles.

66 Doe any in your parish prophane the Sabbath dayes, or not duly obserue the Holy-dayes appointed? Are the Ember Fastes orderly obserued at the spure times of the yeare appointed?

67 Are the dayes and ~~and~~ ^{the} ramification duly obserued in the Rogation weeke: if not, in whose default?

68 Are the Canons, Constitutions, & orders, made & agreed vpon in the convocation house Arno Dom. 1603. read ouer once every yeare in your Church vpon Sundayes, or Holy-dayes, according to his Maiesties Commandement in that behalfe?

69 Doth your Minister yearely present, and give vp in writing to the Ordinary, the names of all Reculants, & halfe Reculants men & women, al-Well sojourners as parishioners, & common guests in your parish, aboue the age of thirteene yeares, according to the 114 Canon, or not?

70 Doe any in your parish take vpon them to practise Physicke or Chirurgery, not being lawfully licensed?

71 Are any in your parish (or which were of your parish, & are now departed) knowne, suspected, famed, or reported to haue offendid in Fornication, Adultery, Incest, Witchcraft, Sorcery, Charming, Usury, Swearing, Drunkennesse, common slandering, sowing of discord, brawling, scolding, or any other uncleanesse of life, or bad manners?

72 Are any Householders in your parish (in whose house there is any one that can read) which haue not the booke intituled God & the King, and who be they which want the same?

73 Haue any Apparatus, or others, taken any reward to compound or conceale any offence presentable, or punishable in the Ecclesiastical Court, let this be manifested, & information & presentement made for every offence accordingly?

74 You shal further present whether any in your parish vpon Sundayes or Holydayes, do vse any dauncing, plaies, or other spoors or pastimes whatsoeuer, before all Seruice on those daies be fully ended: And are the same v-

Articles.

Lev by any of another parish, or by any which have not the same day been as
diuine prayers in their own parish Church, who be they which haue offendred
in any of the premisses?

Churchwardens and Sidemen.

75 Are your Churchwardens & Sidemen chosen yearly in the Easter
weeke according to the Canons: And doe the Churchwardens pearelie, tru-
lie make & deliver vp in writing, their account of all their receipts & dis-
bursments whatsoeuer, by them receiued & spent out for the Parish, & of all
the Church goods, Bookes, and other things, as the Canons require?

76 Doe your Churchwardens themselues come duely to the Church to
diuine Praiers & sermons: & doe they their best endeauours, especiallie upon
Sundays and Holidaies, to cause all Parishioners to doe the like?

77 Whether is there a transcript or copie of the Register Booke of the
Church, of christnings, weddingz, ~~burialles~~ & deauates
vp into the Registrarie of the Ordinarie, or not?

78 Haue the late Churchwardens concealed any crime, offence or disorder
in their times, & not presented the same; what be the matters so concealed?
Or doth any trouble, molest, or vex the Minister, churchwardens or sidemen
for being presented by the: & who be they that so do? And haue your church-
wardens continued in that office aboue one yeaire without a new election?

79 Haue you aduisedly & diligentlie peruled, read, or heard others read
& peruse this booke of Articles, & euery particular Article & branch thereof: &
haue you framed your Answers & presentments to the same accordingly?

80 Generallie, whether doe you know any of the Canons (latelie set
forth and approued by his Maiestie) broken, or any Ecclesiasticall matter
worthe to be presented, or not; and if you doe, you shall truely present the
same (by the Dach you haue taken) aswell now as hereafter when it shall
come to your knowledge?

81 Whether any Churchwardens, Questmen or Sidemen of any Pa-
rishi haue beeene called and inforced to present any faults committed in their
Parishes, otherwise then at the Visitations or time and times limited in
the 115 Canon.

F I N I S.



